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In the Matter of

RICKY OCHOA, M.D.

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CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR PROBATIONARY LICENSE

# Case No. MD-07-L021A

Holder of License No. 36865 For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine In the State of Arizona.

### **CONSENT AGREEMENT**

The Arizona Medical Board ("Board") considered the licensure application ("Application") of Ricky Ochoa, M.D. ("Applicant") at its public meeting on April 11 and 12, 2007 On February 12, 2004 the Board granted Applicant a residency permit and placed him on probation for five years requiring he participate in the Board's Monitored Aftercare Program ("MAP"). Applicant has been compliant with all terms of the probation. On January 21, 2007 Applicant applied for an Arizona allopathic medical license. Applicant truthfully answered all Application questions regarding his past history and current status.

Based on Applicant's prior history, the Board offers Physician a probationary license that requires Applicant participate in MAP for the remaining two years of the five year probationary order issued under his residency permit. Applicant accepts the terms of the probationary license and by mutual agreement and understanding, the parties agree to the following:

- Applicant has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the stipulated 1. Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Consent Agreement"). Applicant acknowledges that he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.
- By entering into this Consent Agreement, Applicant voluntarily relinquishes any 2. rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge this Consent Agreement in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related thereto or arising from said Consent Agreement.

# **FINDINGS OF FACT**

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- The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. On July 11, 2003 Phoenix Baptist Hospital reported Applicant had been terminated from the residency program after a routine drug screen was positive for cocaine. Applicant's termination from the residency program terminated the residency permit previously issued by the Board. Applicant then entered a treatment center and was discharged on August 8, 2003. After completing seven months of recovery and being privately monitored Applicant applied for a second residency permit.
- 3. On February 12, 2004 the Board granted Applicant the second residency permit and placed him on probation for five years requiring he participate in the Board's Monitored Aftercare Program ("MAP"). Applicant has been compliant with all terms of the probation. On January 21, 2007 Applicant applied for an Arizona allopathic medical license. Applicant truthfully answered all Application questions regarding his past history and current status.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.
- The information above constitutes grounds to believe Applicant does not meet the requirements of A.R.S. § 32-1422(A)(3), therefore Applicant is eligible for licensure subject to probationary conditions, including requiring his continued participation in the Board's Monitored Aftercare Program. A.R.S. § 32-1427(H)(4).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Ricky Ochoa is granted a probationary license subject to the following terms for two years<sup>1</sup> from the effective date of this Order:

- a. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Board, stating whether there has been compliance with all conditions of probation. The declarations shall be submitted on or before the 15th of March, June, September and December of each year, beginning on or before June, 2007.
- b.1. Participation. Respondent shall promptly enroll in and participate in the Board's program for the treatment and rehabilitation of physicians who are impaired by alcohol or drug abuse ("MAP"). Respondent's participation in MAP may be unilaterally terminated with or without cause at the Board's discretion at any time after the issuance of this Order.
- Relapse Prevention Group. Respondent shall attend MAP's relapse prevention group therapy sessions one time per week for the duration of this Order, unless excused by the MAP relapse prevention group facilitator for good cause such as illness or vacation. Respondent shall instruct the MAP relapse prevention group facilitators to release to Board Staff, upon request, all records relating to Respondent's treatment, and to submit monthly reports to Board Staff regarding attendance and progress. The reports shall be submitted on or before the 10th day of each month.
- 3. <u>12 Step or Self-Help Group Meetings</u>. Respondent shall attend ninety 12-step meetings or other self-help group meetings appropriate for substance abuse and approved by Board Staff, for a period of ninety days beginning not later than either (a) the first day following Respondent's discharge from chemical dependency treatment or (b) the date of this Order.

The term of probation will be calculated so that the end date of the probation is five years from the effective date of the February 12, 2004 Order.

- 4. Following completion of the ninety meetings in ninety days, Respondent shall participate in a 12-step recovery program or other self-help program appropriate for substance abuse as recommended by the MAP Director and approved by Board Staff. Respondent shall attend a minimum of three 12-step or other self-help program meetings per week for a total of twelve per month. Two of the twelve meetings must be Caduceus meetings. Respondent must maintain a log of all self-help meetings. Board Staff will provide the log to Respondent.
- botain a primary care physician and shall submit the name of the physician to Board Staff in writing for approval. The Board-approved primary care physician ("PCP") shall be in charge of providing and coordinating Respondent's medical care and treatment. Except in an *Emergency*, Respondent shall obtain medical care and treatment only from the PCP and from health care providers to whom the PCP refers Respondent. Respondent shall request that the PCP document all referrals in the medical record. Respondent shall promptly inform the PCP of Respondent's rehabilitation efforts and provide a copy of this Order the PCP. Respondent shall also inform all other health care providers who provide medical care or treatment that Respondent is participating in MAP.
  - a. "Emergency" means a serious accident or sudden illness that, if not treated immediately, may result in a long-term medical problem or loss of life.
- Medication. Except in an *Emergency*, Respondent shall take no *Medication* unless the PCP or other health care provider to whom the PCP refers Respondent prescribes the *Medication*. Respondent shall not self-prescribe any *Medication*.
  - a. "Medication" means a prescription-only drug, controlled substance, and over-the counter preparation, other than plain aspirin, plain ibuprofen, and plain acetaminophen.

- Respondent by any person other than PCP, Respondent shall notify the PCP in writing within 48 hours and notify the MAP Director immediately. The notification shall contain all information required for the medication log entry specified in paragraph 8. Respondent shall request that the notification be made a part of the medical record. This paragraph does not authorize Respondent to take any *Medication* other than in accordance with paragraph 6.
- 8. Medication Log. Respondent shall maintain a current legible log of all Medication taken by or administered to Respondent, and shall make the log available to the Board Staff upon request. For Medication (other than controlled substances) taken on an on-going basis, Respondent may comply with this paragraph by logging the first and last administration of the Medication and all changes in dosage or frequency. The log, at a minimum, shall include the following:
  - a. Name and dosage of *Medication* taken or administered;
  - b. Date taken or administered;
  - c. Name of prescribing or administering physician;
  - d. Reason *Medication* was prescribed or administered.

This paragraph does not authorize Respondent to take any *Medication* other than in accordance with paragraph 6.

- 9. <u>No Alcohol or Poppy Seeds</u>. Respondent shall not consume alcohol or any food or other substance containing poppy seeds or alcohol.
- present in the State of Arizona and such other times as Board Staff may direct, Respondent shall promptly comply with requests from Board Staff or MAP Director to submit to witnessed biological

fluid collection. If Respondent is directed to contact an automated telephone message system to determine when to provide a specimen, Respondent shall do so within the hours specified by Board Staff. For the purposes of this paragraph, in the case of an in-person request, "promptly comply" means "immediately." In the case of a telephonic request, "promptly comply" means that, except for good cause shown, Respondent shall appear and submit to specimen collection not later than two hours after telephonic notice to appear is given. The Board in its sole discretion shall determine good cause.

- 11. Respondent shall provide Board Staff in writing with one telephone number that shall be used to contact Respondent on a 24 hour per day/seven day per week basis to submit to biological fluid collection. For the purposes of this section, telephonic notice shall be deemed given at the time a message to appear is left at the contact telephone number provided by Respondent. Respondent authorizes any person or organization conducting tests on the collected samples to provide testing results to the Board and the MAP Director.
- Respondent shall cooperate with collection site personnel regarding biological fluid collection. Repeated complaints from collection site personnel regarding Respondent's lack of cooperation regarding collection may be grounds for termination from MAP.
- Number. Respondent shall provide Board Staff at least three business days advance written notice of any plans to be away from office or home when such absence would prohibit Respondent from responding to an order to provide a biological fluid specimen or from responding to communications from the Board. The notice shall state the reason for the intended absence from home or office, and shall provide a telephone number that may be used to contact Respondent.
  - 14. Payment for Services. Respondent shall pay for all costs, including

personnel and contractor costs, associated with participating in MAP at the time service is rendered, or within 30 days of each invoice sent to Respondent.

- 15. Examination. Respondent shall submit to mental, physical, and medical competency examinations at such times and under such conditions as directed by the Board to assist the Board in monitoring Respondent's ability to safely perform as a physician and Respondent's compliance with the terms of this Order.
- 16. <u>Treatment</u>. Respondent shall submit to all medical, substance abuse, and mental health care and treatment ordered by the Board.
- 17. Obey All Laws. Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and all rules governing the practice of medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 18. Interviews. Respondent shall appear in person before the Board and its Staff and MAP committees for interviews upon request, upon reasonable notice.
- 19. Address and Phone Changes, Notice. Respondent shall immediately notify the Board in writing of any change in office or home addresses and telephone numbers.
- Relapse, Violation. In the event of chemical dependency relapse by Respondent or Respondent's use of drugs or alcohol in violation of the Order, Respondent shall promptly enter into an Interim Consent Agreement for Practice Restriction that requires, among other things, that Respondent not practice medicine until further Order of the Board. Respondent may also be required to successfully complete long-term inpatient or residential treatment program for chemical dependency designated by Board Staff and obtain affirmative approval from the Board or the Executive Director to return to the practice of medicine. Prior to approving Respondent's request to return to the practice of medicine, Respondent may be required to submit to witnessed biological fluid collection, undergo any combination of physical examination, psychiatric or psychological evaluation and/or successfully pass the special purpose licensing examination or the Board may

return to the practice of medicine. In no respect shall the terms of this paragraph restrict the Board's authority to initiate and take disciplinary action for violation of this Order.

## 21. Notice Requirements.

- (A) Respondent shall immediately provide a copy of this Order to all employers and all hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has privileges. Within 30 days of the date of this Order, Respondent shall provide the Board with a signed statement of compliance with this notification requirement. Upon any change in employer or upon the granting of privileges at additional hospitals and free standing surgery centers, Respondent shall provide the employer, hospital or free standing surgery center with a copy of this Order. Within 30 days of a change in employer or upon the granting of privileges at additional hospitals and free standing surgery centers, Respondent shall provide the Board with a signed statement of compliance with this notification requirement.
- (B) Respondent is further required to notify, in writing, all employers, hospitals and free standing surgery centers where Respondent currently has or in the future gains employment or privileges, of a chemical dependency relapse, use of drugs or alcohol in violation of this Order and/or entry into a treatment program. Within seven days of any of these events Respondent shall provide the Board written confirmation of compliance with this notification requirement.
  - **Public Record.** This Order is a public record.
- 23. Out-of-State. In the event Respondent resides or practices as a physician in a state other than Arizona, Respondent shall participate in the rehabilitation program sponsored by that state's medical licensing authority or medical society. Respondent shall cause the monitoring state's program to provide written reports to the Board regarding Respondent's attendance, participation, and monitoring. The reports shall be due quarterly on or before the 15th day of

.1	March, June, September, and December of each year, until the Board terminates this requirement
2	in writing. The monitoring state's program and Respondent shall immediately notify the Board if
3	Respondent a) is non-compliant with any aspect of the monitoring requirements; b) relapses, c)
4	tests positive for controlled substances; d) has low specific gravity urine drug test(s), missed
5	and/or late urine drug tests, or otherwise rejected urine drug tests; and e) is required to undergo
6	any additional treatment.
7	24. This Order supersedes all previous consent agreements and stipulations between
8	the Board and/or the Executive Director and Respondent.
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10	25. The Board retains jurisdiction and may initiate new action based upon any violation
11	of this Order.
12	DATED AND EFFECTIVE this 3 day of April 2007.
13	MEDICA I
14	ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD
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16	By <u>Le Zulla</u>
17	TIMOTHY C. MILLER, J.D. Executive Director
18	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this day of April 2007 with:
19	The Arizona Medical Board
20	9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, AZ 85258
21	
22	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing faxed/mailed this 3 day of April 2007 to:
23	Ricky Ochoa Address of Record
24	
25	Christi Sango